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supplementary to the general warming of hot-water pipes or stoves; and it is said that on a safe estimate more than half of the present consumption of about 32,000,000 tons per year could thus be saved.

The competitive power of Great Britain, it is held, has been affected by two factors: (1) The steady increase of the cost of working, and (2) the imposition of the export duty early in 1901. Nevertheless, Great Britain has lost little ground as a coal-trading nation, except in countries where a local supply has been developed and in markets which more naturally are commercially tributary to Germany and to the United States. On the whole the report is rather reassuring to the traditional British faith in the free operation of economic laws.

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**Cutler, James E.** *Lynch Law*. Pp. ix, 287. Price, \$1.50. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1905.

Dr. Cutler has put all students of social conditions in the United States under deep obligation by his careful and comprehensive study. The book opens with a general survey and an attempt to trace the origin of the term "lynch," which is found to be of Virginia extraction, originally used of extra legal whippings. The author then distinguishes between the frontier justice where regular courts are not established and what is to-day generally called lynching in otherwise law-governed communities. The question is then extended chronologically and the presence of such events shown from early time. The arguments in justification are cited and the attempts to overcome it by laws punishing lynchers are reviewed. Many accounts of actual occurrences are given. The author believes that the explanation lies in the attitude of the American people towards the law, that we have not yet developed to the point where law *as law* is respected as in Europe. Hence lynching is tolerated because in considerable measure as a sort of common law. Our situation is further complicated by the race differences. It will not cease till public sentiment really condemns it. The author is hopeful about the future. The few lynchings in the past nine months would seem to indicate a rising tide of opposition. Tables showing number of lynchings are given and detailed analyses made. The volume will repay careful study, even if exception is occasionally taken to some of the author's conclusions. The volume represents a great amount of research work and the author is to be congratulated upon the manner in which the material is presented.

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**Fish, Carl Russell.** *The Civil Service and Patronage*. Vol. XI. Harvard Historical Studies. Pp. xi, 280. Price, \$2.00. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1905.

This book is distinctively a history of the patronage, and as such deserves recognition as a valuable contribution in this particular field. The author is